

WEBSTER'S
UNABRIDGED
DICTIONARY
of the
ENGLISH LANGUAGE

The dictionary entries are based on the Second Edition of
The Random House Dictionary of the English Language

RHR
PRESS

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body's body between the breastbone and the navel. 2. any action that causes severe damage, losses, etc.: *Our business received a body blow in the recession.* [1785-95]
body's bolster, *Railroads*. the lower transverse member of a car body to which the body center plate is attached. Cf. **truck bolster**.
body's Brussels. See under **Brussels carpet**.
body's build-er (bod'ē bil'dar), n. a person who practices bodybuilding. Also, **body's-build'er**. [1965-70; BODYBUILD(ING) + -ER']
body's-building (bod'ē bil'ding), n. the act or practice of exercising, lifting weights, etc., so as to develop the muscles of the body. Also, **body's-build'ing**, **body's build'ing**. [1900-05; from the v. phrase *build (up one's body)*; see -ING']
body's centered (bod'ē sen'tard), adj. *Crystall*. (of a crystal structure) having lattice points at the centers of the unit cells. Cf. **face-centered**. [1920-25]
body's cen'ter plate, *Railroads*. See under **center plate**.
body's check, *Ice Hockey*. an obstructing or impeding with the body of the movement or progress of an opponent. Cf. **check** (def. 42). [1890-95]
body's-check (bod'ē chek'), u.t., v.i. *Ice Hockey*. to give (an opponent) a body check. [1905-10; v. use of BODY CHECK]
body's cor'porate, *Law*. a person, association, or group of persons legally incorporated; corporation. [1490-1500]
body's count, the number of soldiers killed in a specific period or in a particular military action: *The daily body count increased as the war went on.* [1965-70]
body's drop, a judo throw executed by grabbing the opponent as one is turning one's back and then extending a leg to pull the opponent down over it. [1945-50]
body's English, *Sports*. a twisting of the body by a player as if to help a ball already hit, rolled, or kicked to travel in the desired direction. [1905-10]
body's guard (bod'ē gärd'), n. 1. a person or group of persons employed to guard an individual, as a high official, from bodily harm. 2. a retinue; escort. —u.t., v.i. 3. to provide with or act as a bodyguard. [1725-35; BODY + GUARD]
body's im'age, an intellectual or idealized image of what one's body is or should be like that is sometimes misconceived in such mental disorders as anorexia nervosa. [1930-35]
body's lan'guage, nonverbal, usually unconscious, communication through the use of postures, gestures, facial expressions, and the like. Cf. **kinesics**, **paralanguage**, **proxemics**. [1925-30]
body's louse. See under **louse** (def. 1). [1565-75]
body's mechan'ics, (used with a singular or plural n.) a set of exercises designed to develop an individual's coordination, grace, and stamina. [1965-70]
body's mike, a small, wireless microphone worn inconspicuously by an actor, singer, or other performer to amplify the voice without inhibiting mobility. [1970-75]
body's-mike (bod'ē mik'), u.t., -miked, -miking, to equip with a body mike: *The star was body-miked, but he was still inaudible.* [1970-75]
body's of Christ, 1. the community of believers of which Christ is the head. I Cor. 12:27. 2. the consecrated bread of the Eucharist.
body's plan, 1. Biol. the basic shape of members of an animal phylum; the general structure each individual organism assumes as it develops. Cf. **bilateral symmetry**, **radial symmetry**. 2. *Naval Archit.* a diagrammatic elevation of a hull, consisting of an end view of the bow on one side of the center line and an end view of the stern on the other side, marked with water lines, diagonals, bow or buttock lines, stations, and sometimes details of the hull. Cf. **half-breadth plan**, **sheer plan**. [1840-50]
body's pol'itic, *Political Science*. a people regarded as a political body under an organized government. [1425-75; late ME *bodi politik*]
body's post, *Naut.* sternpost.
body's press, a hold in which a wrestler places full body weight on a supine opponent in trying to pin the opponent's shoulders to the mat.
body's rhythm, biorhythm.
body's rub, massage.
body's search (bod'ē sürch'), u.t. to search all parts of the body of: *Police ordered the suspects to strip and then body-searched them for hidden caches of narcotics.*
body's-shell (bod'ē shel'), n. the outer shell of an automobile body, excluding doors, window glass, interior fittings, and all mechanical components. [BODY + SHELL]
body's shirt, 1. a close-fitting shirt or blouse having a shape and seams that follow the contours of the body. 2. such a garment with a sewn-in or snap crotch, esp. a woman's leotard or combination shirt and panty with a snap crotch. [1965-70]
body's shop, 1. a factory or machine shop in which bodies for vehicles, as automobiles, trucks, or the like, are manufactured, repaired, etc. 2. *Slang*. a. an employment agency, school, or the like that provides large numbers of workers, trainees, recent graduates, etc., to fill entry-level jobs. b. a gym, health club, or the like where people may exercise, do bodybuilding, etc. c. a singles bar. [1950-55]
body's slam, a wrestling throw in which an opponent is lifted and hurled to the mat, landing on his or her back.
body's snatch'er, 1. a person who steals corpses; grave-robbing. 2. *Slang*. an agency that recruits executives working for one company to fill top management positions in another. [1805-15]
body's snatch'ing, the act or practice of robbing a grave to obtain a cadaver for dissection. [1825-35]
body's stock'ing, a close-fitting, one-piece garment made of knitted or stretch material and usually covering the feet, legs, trunk, and arms, worn as an exercise costume or under other clothing. [1960-65, Amer.]
body's-suit (bod'ē sūt'), n. a close-fitting, one-piece, usually sleeved garment for the torso, having a snap crotch. Also, **body's suit**. Cf. **body shirt**, **leotard**. [1965-70; BODY + SUIT]
body's-surf (bod'ē sürf'), u.i. to ride a cresting wave toward the shore by lying face down in the water with the arms stretched forward in the direction of the wave. [1940-45] —**body's-surf'er**, n.
body's track, the tracks of a railroad yard used for switching or sorting cars.
body's type, *Print*. type used in the main text of printed matter, generally less than 14 points. Cf. **display type**. [1895-1900]
body's wave, 1. *Geol.* a transverse or longitudinal earthquake wave that travels through the interior of the earth (distinguished from surface wave). 2. a permanent with little or no curl, designed to give fullness and body to the hair and to make it more manageable.
body's-wear (bod'ē wär'), n. close-fitting clothing, as leotards or bodysuits, made of lightweight, usually stretch fabrics and worn for exercising, dancing, or leisure activity. [BODY + WEAR]
body's-work (bod'ē würk'), n. 1. the work involved in making or repairing automobile or other vehicle bodies. 2. the body of an automobile or other vehicle, esp. with regard to the details or the quality of its construction. [1905-10; BODY + WORK]
Bo-ee (bō ēē'), n. Boethius.
Boeh-me (bā'mā, bō'; Ger. bœ'mä), n. **Ja-kob** (Ger. yä'kōp). See **Böhme, Jakob**.
Boeh-men-ism (bā'mā niz'm, bō'-), n. the mystical doctrines or conceptions of Jakob Böhme. Also, **Behmen-ism**. [1650-60; J. BOEHME + -n (as in BEHMEN) + -ISM]
Boeh-men-ist (bā'mā nist, bō'-), n. a supporter or adherent of Boehmenism. Also, **Behmenist**, **Boeh'men-ite**, **Behmenite**, **Boeh'mist**. [1645-55; J. BOEHME + -n (as in BEHMEN) + -IST]
Boehm-i-an (bā'mē an, bō'-), adj. of or pertaining to Boehmenism. [J. BOEHME + -IAN]
boehm-ite (bā'mit, bō'-), n. a mineral, hydrous aluminum oxide, AlO(OH), a major component of bauxite. [1925-30; *< G Böhmit*, named after J. Böhm, 20th-century German scientist; see -ITE']
Boehm's sys'tem (bām, bōm), a system of improved fingering and keying for the flute and clarinet, invented by the German musician Theobald Boehm (1794-1881). [1900-05]
Boe-o-tia (bō ē'shā), n. a district in ancient Greece, NW of Athens. Cap. Thebes.
Boe-o-tian (bō ē'shān), adj. 1. of or pertaining to Boeotia or its inhabitants. 2. dull; obtuse; without cultural refinement. —n. 3. a native or inhabitant of Boeotia. 4. a dull, obtuse person; Philistine. [1590-1600; BOEOTIA + -AN]
Boe-o-tus (bō ē'tas), n. *Class. Myth.* a son of Arne and Poseidon, and ancestor of the Boeotians.
Boer (bōr, bōr, bōör; Du. bōör), n. 1. a South African of Dutch extraction. —adj. 2. of or pertaining to the Boers. [1825-35; *< Afrik < D: peasant, farmer. See BOOR*]
Boer's War, 1. a war in which Great Britain fought against the Transvaal and Orange Free State, 1899-1902. 2. a war between Great Britain and the Transvaal, 1880-81.
Bo-e-thi-us (bō ē'thē əs), n. **A-ni-ci-us Man-li-us Sev-er-i-us** (ə nish'ē əs man'lē əs sev'ə rī'nəs), A.D. 475?-525?, Roman philosopher and statesman. Also, **Bo-e-tius** (bō ē'shəs). Also called **Boece**. —**Bo-e-thi-an**, adj.
boeuf bour-gui-gnon (bōf bōör gē nyōn'), *French Cookery*. beef cubes cooked in red wine with mushrooms, onions, and bacon. Also called **boeuf à la bour-guigonne** (bōf ə la bōör gē nyōn'). [*< F: lit., Burgundian beef; see BOURGUIGNON*]
boff (bof), *Slang*. —n. 1. *Theat.* a. a box-office hit. b. a joke or humorous line producing hearty laughter. 2. a loud hearty laugh; belly laugh. —u.t. 3. to cause to be overcome with laughter. 4. to hit; strike. [cf. *borro*]
boff-fin (bof'in), n. *Brit. Slang*. a scientist or technical expert. [1940-45; orig. uncert.]
boff-fo (bof'fō), n., pl. -fos, adj. *Slang*. —n. 1. boff. —adj. 2. highly effective or successful: *He gave a boffo performance as Cyrano.* Also, **boff-o-la** (bo fō'lā). [perh. alter. of BUFO or BOUFFE]
Bo'fors gun (bō'fōrz, -fōrs), 1. a 40-millimeter automatic gun used chiefly as an antiaircraft weapon. 2. two such guns mounted and fired together as one unit. [1935-40; named after Bofors, Sweden, where first made]
bog (bog, bōg), n., v., **bogged**, **bog-ging**. —n. 1. wet, spongy ground with soil composed mainly of decayed vegetable matter. 2. an area or stretch of such ground. —u.t., v.i. 3. to sink in or as if in a bog (often fol. by down): *We were bogged down by overwork.* 4. **bog in**, *Australian Slang*. to eat heartily and ravenously. [1495-1505; *< Ir or ScotGael bogach* soft ground (bog soft + -ach n. suffix); (def. 4) perh. a different word] —**bog'gish**, adj.
bog (bog, bōg), n. Usually, **bogs**. *Brit. Slang*. a lavatory; bathroom. [1780-90; prob. shortening of bog-house; cf. bog to defecate, boggard (16th century) privy, of obscure orig.]
Bo-ga-lu-sa (bō'gā lō'sə), n. a city in SE Louisiana. 16,976.
bo-gan (bō'gən), n. *Northern Maine and Canadian*

(chiefly *Maritimes and Northern New Brunswick*). 1. a backwater, usually narrow and tranquil. 2. any narrow stretch of water. [1895-1900; appar. shortening of *POKE-LOGAN*, perh. conflated with bog; cf. *LOGAN*]
Bo-gan (bō gan', bō'gan), n. *Louise*, 1897-1970, U.S. poet.
Bogart (bō'gärt), n. *Humphrey (DeForest)* ("Bogey"), 1900-57, U.S. motion-picture actor.
bog' as/phodel, any of several plants of the genus *Narthecium*, of the lily family; having yellowish flowers and growing in boggy places. [1880-85]
bog-bean (bog'bēn', bōg'-), n. See **buck bean**. [1785-95; BOG' + BEAN]
bog-ey (bō'gē; for 2 also bōōg'ē, bōō'gē), n., pl. -geys, v., -geyed, -gey-ing. —n. 1. *Golf*. a. a score of one stroke over par on a hole. b. par (def. 4). 2. *bogy* (def. 1-3). 3. Also, **boggy**, **bogie**. *Mil.* an unidentified aircraft or missile, esp. one detected as a blip on a radar screen. 4. *bogie*. —u.t. 5. *Golf*. to make a bogey on (a hole): *Arnold Palmer bogeyed the 18th hole.* [1890-95; sp. var. of BOGY]
bog-ey (bō'gē), n., pl. -geys, v., -geyed, -gey-ing. *Australian*. —n. 1. a swim; bathe. —u.t. 2. to swim; bathe. [*< Dharuk, equiv. to bū- bathe + -gi past tense marker*]
bog-ey-hole (bō'gē hōl'), n. *Australian*. a swimming hole.
bog-ey-man (bōōg'ē man', bō'gē-, bōō'-), n., pl. -men. an imaginary evil character of supernatural powers, esp. a mythical bogoblin supposed to carry off naughty children. Also, **bogymán**, **boogerman**, **boogey-man**, **boogie-man**. [1885-90; BOGEY (var. of BOGY) + MAN']
bog-gle (bog'gəl), v., -gled, -gling, n. —u.t. 1. to overwhelm or bewilder, as with the magnitude, complexity, or abnormality of: *The speed of light boggles the mind.* 2. to bungle; botch. —u.t. 3. to hesitate or waver because of scruples, fear, etc. 4. to start or jump with fear, alarm, or surprise; shrink; shy. 5. to bungle awkwardly. 6. to be overwhelmed or bewildered. —n. 7. an act of shying or taking alarm. 8. a scruple; demur; hesitation. 9. bungle; botch. [1590-1600; perh. from BOGGLE'] —**bog'gling-ly**, adv.
bog-gle (bog'gəl), n. bogie.
bog-gler (bog'glər), n. something, as an amazing fact, puzzle, or riddle, that astounds or defeats: *The puzzle was a real boggler.* [1600-10; BOGGLE' + -ER']
bog-gy (bog'gē, bō'gē), adj., -gi-er, -gi-est. 1. containing or full of bogs: *It was difficult walking through the boggy terrain.* 2. wet and spongy: *The ground is boggy under foot.* [1580-90; bog' + -y] —**bog'gi-ness**, n.
Bo-gaz-köy (bō'gāz kō'ē-, kōi', bō'āz-), n. a village in N central Turkey: site of the ancient Hittite city of Hattusas. Also, **Bo'gaz-köy**, **Bo-gaz-keu-i** (bō'gāz-kō'ē).
bog'head coal (bog'hed'), compact bituminous coal that burns brightly and yields large quantities of tar and oil upon distillation. [1935-40; named after *Boghead*, Scotland]
bog' hole, *Phys. Geog.* a land-surface depression occupied by waterlogged soil and spongy vegetative material that cannot bear the weight of large animals. [1780-90]
bo-gie (bō'gē), n. 1. *Auto.* (on a truck) a rear-wheel assembly composed of four wheels on two axles, either or both driving axles, so mounted as to support the rear of the truck body jointly. 2. *Railroads*. (in Britain) a truck that rotates about a central pivot under a locomotive or car. 3. *Brit.* a. any low, strong, four-wheeled cart or truck, as one used by masons to move stones. b. truck' (def. 4). Also, **bogey**, **bogy**. [1810-20; orig. uncert.]
bo-gie (bō'gē, bōōg'ē, bōō'gē), n. *bogy* (def. 3).
bog'i-ron ore (bog'i'ərən, bōg'-), *Mineral*. a deposit of impure limonite formed in low, wet areas. Also called **bog' ore**. [1780-90]
bo-gle (bō'gəl, bog'gəl), n. a boggy; specter. Also, **bo-gie**. [1495-1505; bog (var. of BUG bugbear) + -LE]
bog' moss. See **peat moss**. [1775-85]
bog' myr'tle. See **sweet gale**. [1880-85]
bog' oak, oak or other wood preserved in peat bogs. Also called **bogwood**. [1855-60]
Bog-o-mil (bog'ō mil), n. a member of a dualistic sect, flourishing chiefly in Bulgaria in the Middle Ages, that rejected most of the Old Testament and was strongly anticlerical in polity. Also, **Bog-o-mile** (bog'ō mil'). [1840-45; *< MGk Bogomilos*, from the name of a 10th cent. Bulgarian priest alleged to have founded the sect, in later South Slavic sources *Bogomil* (a calque of Gk *Theophilus*; see THEO-, -PHILE) —**Bog'o-mil-i-an**, adj. —**Bog'o-mil-ism**, n.
bo-gong (bō'gōng, -gong), n. a dark-colored Australian moth, *Agrostis infusa*, used by Aborigines as food. [1830-35; earlier *bugong*, perh. *< Ngayawang* (Austral Aboriginal language of the lower Murray River, New South Wales) *bugung*]
Bo-gor (bō'gōr), n. a city on W Java, in Indonesia. 195,882. Former Dutch name, **Buitenzorg**.
Bo-go-rodsk (bog'ō rotsk'; Russ. bə gu rōtsk'), n. former name of **Noginsk**.
Bo-go-tá (bō'gō tā', bō'gō tā'; Sp. bó'gō tā'), n. a city in and the capital of Colombia, in the central part. 2,855,065.
CONCISE PRONUNCIATION KEY: act, cāpe, dāre, pärt; set, equal; if, ice; ox, över, öder, oil, böök, bööl, out; up, ürge; child; sing; shoe; thin; that; zh as in treasure. ə = a as in alone, e as in system, i as in easily, o as in gallop, u as in circus; * as in fire (fī'r), hour (ou'r). l and n can serve as syllabic consonants, as in cradle (krād'l), and button (but'n). See the full key inside the front cover.